

The Democratic Banner.

\$1.50 PER YEAR

MT. VERNON, OHIO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1917 — No. 4

ESTABLISHED 1836

NEW TAX LAW TASK FOR SOLONS

Measure Must Be Enacted By The Assembly Without Delay

Governor To Present Plan At Session Next Monday

Columbus, Jan. 11.—As a result of the Ohio supreme court decision, knocking out the Parrott-Whitmore taxation law, leaders of both parties in the legislature made it clear that they want to enact a new tax law with as much dispatch as possible, in order to have it in operation by spring.

Governor Cox said he expected to have a definite plan of procedure to announce when the general assembly convenes Monday. Republicans expressed willingness to co-operate with Democrats, under certain conditions, so that the new law, as an emergency measure, may get the necessary two-thirds vote to make it immediately effective.

Democrats have not a two-thirds majority. Republicans, in return for their votes, will insist on having some of their recommendations accepted. Each party probably will introduce its own bill.

The supreme court decision practically made a clean sweep in brushing aside taxation laws, so that the provisions of the new law will go back to the fundamentals of things.

Boards of revision in Hamilton, Cuyahoga, Lucas and Mahoning counties still were in session until the state tax commission ordered them to cease work until the written opinion of the court is handed down. Prosecutor J. V. Campbell of Hamilton county told the board members and clerks that they can not collect salaries for future work.

It is likely that the new law will have to adopt pre-Warner law methods of creating boards of equalization and review. At that time, boards of review for cities were appointed by the state tax board, and the county auditor and commissioners constituted the board of equalization for

property outside of cities.

Governor Cox made this statement on the supreme court decision: "The whole taxing machinery of the state falls to pieces, except such de facto status as might exist, and it is necessary to enact legislation which will be effective in time to provide for the date of assessment in the spring. Of course, a new tax valuing time must be created, but it will approximate the date that has been in operation for years. In view of the fact that a fixed time to elapse for the purpose of making up the duplicate, carrying on the work of review and specifying the tax rate by the budget commission is physically necessary, there is no time to be lost and yet what is done must be preceded with a very careful regard for the exigency. I shall probably have a definite plan of procedure to announce not later than Monday."

WHY WORK AT ALL?

Columbus, Jan. 11.—Representatives of Ohio coal miners, in annual session, went on record in favor of a seven hour day and of working only five days a week. Efforts will be made to obtain such concessions from operators when the wage scale is discussed a year hence. Other features of the meeting were adoption of a resolution favoring woman suffrage and discussion of a proposal to make all mine and fire "bosses" in the state pass examinations to prove their fitness.

WANT MORE SALARY

Columbus, Jan. 11.—Ohio county commissioners will ask the legislature to increase their salaries by basing them on county population, similar to other county officials, instead of on total property valuation. This they adopted at a session of the thirty-sixth annual meeting of the county commissioners here. "This step probably means a 25 per cent salary increase in larger counties," Arthur L. Eberly, Montgomery county, chairman of the legislative committee, said.

HORN HEADS A COMMITTEE

Columbus, Jan. 11.—The senate committee on committees has decided to give the Republicans eleven out of forty-one chairmanships. Among the chairmanships tentatively agreed upon for the senate are: Agnew, tax; Johnson, finance; Mooney, privileges and elections; Terrell, cities; Horn, villages; Gilmore, judiciary; Kennedy, labor; Holden, temperance; Wright, public health; and Benedict, public works.

VOPICKA'S ACTS AS MINISTER TO ROUMANIA ARE CRITICISED



MINISTER VOPICKA, WIFE AND DAUGHTER.

American Minister Charles J. Vopicka will be taken away from Bukharest, as the German government asks, although he still will be the accredited American minister to Roumania, Serbia and Bulgaria, according to Washington reports. The German government has cited incidents in which it alleges he was unneutral toward the central powers and favored Roumania. With the Dutch minister, Mr. Vopicka undertook protection of entente subjects when the Germanic armies took the Roumanian capital. Investigation probably will be ordered by the state department.

The department has not heard from the minister directly since three days

before the fall of Bukharest, when he signified his intention of remaining at his post there and sending the secretary of legation to accompany the Roumanian government to its new capital at Jassy. Minister Vopicka, a Chicago man, was born in Bohemia and was selected for his post by former Secretary Bryan. He is accused of committing diplomatic blunders at Bukharest, one story asserting that he once telephoned to the queen of Roumania, insisting upon her answering the call in person and then addressing her with, "Good morning, queen." Photo shows Mr. Vopicka with his wife and daughter.

MORE EFFICIENCY NEEDED IN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Columbus, Jan. 11.—Warning that "unless something is done, the whole highway system of Ohio is going to the devil," Governor James Cox addressed the eighth annual meeting of Ohio fair boys at Chamber of Commerce auditorium concerning his plans as to improvements of roads, agricultural administration and rural schools during the next two years.

"Farm folk and city folk," he said, "will not continue to see \$4,000,000 going into the roads each year with no result but torn-up highways and a few inspectors on them. The department of public highways must be more efficiently organized. I want you all to register your views in respect to proposed changes in the Cass road law. That roads to county seats

must be paid for in only five years is a monstrous proposition. If bonds be issued for ten or fifteen years, where permanent material is used, seventy times as many roads can be constructed as now, and much more cheaply."

Villistas Execute Woman.

Junarez, Jan. 11.—A telegram was received here by Miss Maria Chavez from her brother, Guillermo Chavez of Jiminez, which read: "Our mother was executed by Francisco Villistas forces Jan. 2." The girl's mother was Mrs. Celsa Caballero, a widow, living in Parral. The telegram added that the Villistas officers, thinking the widow was wealthy, demanded a forced loan and, upon being refused, they ordered the woman shot by a firing squad.

BOPP AND AIDES GUILTY IN THE BOMB PLOT

San Francisco, Jan. 11.—Franz Bopp, German consul general here, and four of his attaches or employees were found guilty by a jury in the United States district court of having violated this country's neutrality. Two actions were consolidated in the trial. The defendants are charged with violation of the act of July 2, 1890, by conspiring to restrain interstate and foreign commerce by destroying factories, railroads and steamships. The other action was for alleged violation of sections 13 and 27 of the United States criminal code in conspiring to get on foot and to provide and prepare means for a military enterprise to be carried on from

within the United States against the territory and dominion of Great Britain.

Besides Bopp the defendants were E. M. Von Schack, vice consul; Wilhelm Von Brincken, J. P. Von Koolbergen, Margaret F. Cornell, Charles C. Crowley and Louis J. Smith.

Retires as Manager.

Ironton, O., Jan. 11.—At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Marting Iron and Steel company, Colonel H. A. Marting announced his retirement as general manager of the company. He will retain the presidency, however. Poor health is the cause of his retirement.

DANIELS WILL SUCCEED HIMSELF

Member of Interstate Commerce
Commission Wins Out.

SENATE CONFIRMS NOMINATION

Vote, Which Stood 42 to 15, Is Taken After Opposition Had Delayed Action For Nearly a Month—Senator Cummins Severely Arraigns Daniels Because of His Rulings in New Jersey.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The senate confirmed the nomination of Winthrop M. Daniels of New Jersey to succeed himself as a member of the interstate commerce commission.

The vote, taken after opposition had delayed action for nearly a month, stood 42 to 15. All the senators of the so-called progressive wing of the Republican party and one Democrat, Senator Hollis, voted in the negative. Fourteen Republicans joined the Democrats voting for confirmation.

Excerpts from the executive debate made public include a speech by Senator Cummins, attacking Commissioner Daniels' fitness for a place on the commission because of rulings he handed down as public utilities commissioner of New Jersey, and declaring that in granting increases to the railroads in the advance rate case the interstate commerce commission, led by Mr. Daniels, ignored the law and exercised an authority which never has been and never will be conferred on any commission.

A reply by Senator Newlands, defending the commissioner's part in both of these cases, also was given out.

In his argument against confirmation Senator Cummins went at length into the railroad control situation and declared he believed the federal government "had reached the parting of the ways." "I believe that our system of the control and regulation of common carriers is on final trial and if the commission is to be made up of men of Mr. Daniels' turn of mind, the system must be abolished," said the Iowa senator. "For one, I have no hesitation in declaring that if his views are to prevail, I am for absolute and immediate government ownership and operation of our transportation facilities."

The chains of habit are generally too small to be felt until too strong to be broken.—Samuel Johnson.

LIVE STOCK AND GRAIN

EAST BUFFALO, Jan. 11.

Cattle—Shipping steers, \$5 20@11 25; butcher steers, \$5 00@7 75; heifers, \$4 60@5 25; cows, \$4 25@5 25; bulls, \$5 25@8 25; stockers and feeders, \$5 25@7 50; fresh cows and springers, \$5 00@15 00; calves, \$5 00@15 00; Hogs—Heavy and mixed, \$11 25@11 50; Yorkers, \$11 20@11 25; light Yorkers, \$10 40@10 75; pigs, \$9 75@10 00; roughs, \$9 50@10 00; stags, \$7 50@8 50.

Sheep and Lambs—Yearlings, \$5 50@12 75; wethers, \$10 00@10 50; ewes, \$4 50@5 25; mixed sheep, \$9 50@9 75; lambs, \$9 50@11 50. Receipts—Cattle, 450; hogs, 5,000; sheep and lambs, 400; calves, 100.

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.

Cattle—Native beef steers, \$7 50@11 80; western steers, \$7 50@10 10; stockers and feeders, \$5 50@8 50; cows and heifers, \$4 50@10 00; calves, \$5 50@12 50.

Hogs—Heavy, \$9 90@10 50; mixed, \$10 15@10 65; heavy, \$10 20@10 65; roughs, \$10 20@10 35; pigs, \$7 00@9 50. Sheep and Lambs—Wethers, \$9 40@10 50; lambs, \$11 50@12 25. Receipts—Cattle, 24,000; hogs, 71,000; sheep and lambs, 18,000.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 11.

Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$8 50@9 25; butcher steers, \$7 50@8 75; heifers, \$7 00@8 25; cows, \$6 50@7 50; calves, \$13 25@14.

Hogs—Yorkers, \$10 80; heavies and mediums, \$10 50; pigs, \$9 85; roughs, \$9 65; stags, \$8 50.

Sheep and Lambs—Yearlings, \$12 00@13; wethers, \$8 50@9; ewes, \$7 50@8 50; lambs, \$12 00@14.

Receipts—Cattle, 250; hogs, 3,000; sheep and lambs, 1,000; calves, 150.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 11.

Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$10 25@10 75; butcher steers, \$6 50@8 25; heifers, \$6 50@8 25; cows, \$5 50@7 40; calves, \$15.

BATTLE GROWS IN INTENSITY

Slavs And Germans Engaged In Riga Section Of Russia

British Indian Troops Take Trenches From The Turks

London, Jan. 11.—In the region of Riga, in northwest Russia, the battle which started several days ago is growing in intensity.

The results thus far attained are somewhat beclouded. While Berlin asserts that southwest of Riga all attacks by the Russians have been without success, Petrograd reports that near Lake Babit the Russians captured German positions between Tirul marsh and the River Aa and advanced their line about one and one-third miles southward. The Germans in the region of Kalnzen delivered a counter attack on the Russians, who had occupied a position east of the village, but it was put down by the Russians.

In the past six days in this region the Russians report the capture of 21 heavy and 11 light guns and large quantities of arms and equipment.

Field Marshal Von Muckenssen's army, operating in southern Moldavia, has crossed the Putna river north of Fokshani, and between Fokshani and Foudeni, has forced the Russians and Roumanians across the Sereth river, taking in the latter operation 550 prisoners.

There has also been severe fighting near the mouth of the Rinnik-Sarat river, west of Galatz, and along the Kassina river, in which both Berlin and Petrograd claim the advantage. Berlin reports that the Russians attacked the heights along the Suchitza valley, but met with a sanguinary reverse.

Aside from the Russian and Roumanian theaters and an attack by British Indian troops against the Turkish line at the bend of the Tigris river, northeast of Kut-el-Amara, the fighting in all the other zones has consisted of bombardments and minor infantry attacks.

On the Tigris the Indians captured Turkish trenches over a front of 1,000 yards. In one of the minor engagements on the front in France, the British, east of Beaumont-Hamel, captured and held a German trench and made three officers and 140 men prisoners.

PURCHASES PULP PLANT

Sandusky, O., Jan. 11.—In order to get raw material, its supply having been cut off soon after the war broke out in Europe, the Hinde & Dauch Paper company of this city purchased the controlling interest in the Southern Fiber company at Portsmouth, Va., a \$500,000 corporation. The announcement was made by J. J. Dauch, president of the purchasing company. The Portsmouth company manufactures a yellow pine pulp.

LEAK PROBER WOULD CALL LAWSON'S HAND

Seeks to Broaden Scope of the Investigation.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Although most of the Democratic members of the rules committee favor abandonment of investigation of a leak of President Wilson's peace note, with an adverse report on the Wood resolution, a subcommittee was appointed to draft contempt charges against Thomas W. Lawson for use in case the committee decides to report the Boston financier for refusing to give names in connection with the rumors he repeated.

A resolution was offered by Representative Campbell of Kansas, Republican, designed to broaden the scope of the inquiry so as to meet Mr. Lawson's objection that because the present investigation was preliminary and limited to a specific leak, he could not give the names of men high in official life who, he had heard, were involved in a system for making money out of the stock market on official information. Mr. Campbell said he wanted to "call Mr. Lawson's hand."

Hearings were temporarily suspended after several witnesses had been heard, including R. W. Bolling, a brother-in-law of President Wilson and member of a local stock brokerage firm, who testified that he heard of the peace note for the first time through the newspapers.

Murder Suspect Kill Self.

Bloomington, Ill., Jan. 11.—The murder of Thomas Howes, wealthy retired farmer, had a startling sequel when his son Robert, lodged in jail here as his father's murderer, strangled himself to death with a pair of suspenders in his cell.

AUTHORESS' COMPLAINT

Akron, O., Jan. 11.—Mrs. Adah L. Safford, prominent Akron society woman and writer of many children's stories, sued her husband, Arthur J. Safford, president of the Safford Publishing company, for divorce, alleging gross neglect of duty, covering a period of eight years.

ZOO SAVED TO CITY

Cincinnati, Jan. 11.—August Herrmann, chairman of a committee appointed more than a month ago to collect by popular subscription \$125,000 in an effort to buy the zoological gardens and have them presented to the city, announced that the required amount had been subscribed.

GIRL'S SKULL FRACTURED

Youngstown, O., Jan. 11.—Miss Matilda Levin, eighteen, was run down and fatally injured by an automobile driven by O. H. Lindly. The latter was arrested and released on \$1,500 bond. Miss Levin's skull was fractured.